

Butler, Jennie C

From: jfox@hampshire.edu
Sent: Friday, April 09, 1999 12:55 AM
To: FDADockets@test.oc.fda.gov; FDADockets@fda.gov
Subject: Docket #98N-1038



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To whom it may concern:

I strongly believe the FDA should retain the current labeling law, with the current terminology of "treated with radiation" or "treated by irradiation," and the use of the radura symbol on all irradiated whole foods. I am in support the recommendation by the Center for Science in the Public Interest regarding labeling of irradiated foods:

"any foods, or any foods containing ingredients that have been treated by irradiation, should be labeled with a written statement on the principal display panel indicating such treatment. The statement should be easy to read and placed in close proximity to the name of the food and accompanied by the international symbol. If the food is unpackaged, this information should be clearly displayed on a poster in plain view and adjacent to where the product is displayed for sale."

Because of the newness of the technology and the need to assess the public health effects of widespread use of irradiated foods, I believe that the FDA's labeling requirement should not be permitted to expire.

I feel the terms "treated by irradiation" or "treated with radiation" should remain on the packaging for irradiated foods and products containing irradiated foods. Any phrase using the word "pasteurization" is misleading because pasteurization is an entirely different process of rapid heating and cooling.

Like other labels, irradiation labels are required by FDA to be truthful and not misleading. It is your job to mandate labels so we can be informed as consumers about what we are choosing to eat.

I urge you to place the comments received on the Internet so that the public can be informed about who is participating in this comment process.

Sincerely,
Fayette Fox

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